

IN HONOR OF THE 155TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Ball's Bluff fought in Loudoun County, Virginia, on October 21st, 1861. Being one of the earliest battles of the American Civil War, Ball's Bluff had an enormous impact on military affairs for the remaining four years of conflict.

On October 20th, 1861, Brigadier General Charles Pomeroy Stone and the Union forces under his command engaged the Confederate forces of Colonel Nathan Evans on the banks of the Potomac River near Leesburg, Virginia. Stone's forces had crossed the river and were subsequently repelled and defeated by their Confederate counterparts. This battle was unique in American history because, as Union forces were withdrawing across the Potomac, Colonel Edward Baker, a sitting U.S. Senator, was killed in action. The defeat, coupled with Colonel Baker's death, was the catalyst for the creation of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. Colonel Baker remains the only United States Senator killed in battle, and Ball's Bluff proved to be indicative of the long war to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in recognizing the 155th Anniversary of the Bat-

tle of Ball's Bluff. We must always remember and honor those who sacrificed their lives to preserve our nation in its darkest hour.

HONORING JOHN DECICCO JR.

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 1, 2016*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a leader in our community, John DeCicco Jr. whose humanitarian work is being recognized by The Pelham Civic Association at their Annual Dinner Dance Gala. John is one of three honorees for "Persons of the Year" on November 4, 2016 in my district.

John is the President and CEO of DeCicco & Sons Food Markets. He is a longtime volunteer member of the Pelham Civics, a major contributor to Pelham Civics "Needy Cases Program," which provides food baskets for hundreds of needy families. He also spearheaded the Pelham Civics' 75th Anniversary Dinner Dance Journal in 2014, raising over \$12,000.

John is known for his countless acts of altruism, philanthropy, and charity. He has worked with The Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Wounded Warriors, The Boy and Girl Scouts in an effort to support the community and those in need. He was the recipient of the 2015 Rotary Club of the Pelhams Award for his work supporting children and families.

John also works closely with career placement for special needs students, was a Past Advisory Board Member for the Fordham University Graduate School of Business Entrepreneurship, a former Junior Board Member for the Westchester Italian Cultural Center, Past President of the Pelham Chamber of Commerce, and has worked closely with Governor Cuomo, County Executive Rob Astorino, ConEdison, and NYSEDA in leading an effort to promote "GREEN Markets for the Future" the first of which was opened in Larchmont in December of 2015. The store, which is founded on the principle of being environmentally friendly, has received the EPA's Green Chill Platinum Certification.

John's business, DeCicco & Sons, is also a long-time contributor to Pelham School PTAs, and was the recipient of the 2015 New York State PTA Congress "Golden Oak Award" for exemplary support of the school districts, PTAs and students. DeCiccoss also received the 2015 Westchester's Best Family-Owned Business Award, for continued commitment and active support to the communities in which they live and work, the 2016 Independent Green Business of the Year Award. John married Luisa DeCicco, Ph.D., another honoree, and have two children.

It is an honor to present John with a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at The Pelham Civic Association Annual Dinner Gala. I want to thank him for all he has done in the community and all he continues to do on behalf of Pelham. Congratulations to all honorees of the evening.